

## A GIPSY BELLE DIES.

A Nomadic Beauty and a Romance Laid Low in a Tent.

## THE TIE RUDELY SEVERED

That Bound a Romya Eye to a Charmer of a Wanderer's Camp.

## MARRIED UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

An Escape From England and the Strange Meeting in America.

## ASHES TO ASHES WITH UNIQUE RITES

It is only a page culled from the romantic lives of two vagabond Gypsies, whose ever shifting home for one brief interval rested near this city; the pathetic conclusion of a chapter in nomadic life; the joint record of two lives united to go through this world hand in hand—a bond rent asunder by the hand of death. One volume of the record was yesterday closed forever; but the pages of its companion work are yet unwritten, a single, touching tale of Gypsy life and love.

On the side of a gully through which a little brook runs smoothly to a larger stream, a mile away, and thence flows away into the Ohio river, there rested until yesterday morning two pairs of tents. Unprotected by hill or woods they were open to the winter blasts from the East. The landscape is dreary and uninviting, seemingly a most congenial spot for disease and death to lurk. The monotonous noise emitted by the escape pipe of a steam-engine in a brick-yard a short distance away is the only sound which disturbs the dreary silence. The spot in which

THIS GIPSY CAMP is located is known as McCamp's Hollow, and is near the boundary line of the city in the West End. To reach it one must wade through fields of sticky red clay.

A reporter paid a visit to the camp yesterday, to learn the story of the death, in the morning, of one of its former residents, Mrs. Annie Stanley.

The camp is at present composed of one small wall-tent. The flaps have been removed, and a temporary shelter has been formed in front of the tent by planting a number of poles in a semi-circle and then bending them over toward the tent and binding the tops together with willow wands. This framework is covered with coarse cotton bagging. A few logs and bushes stand at the side and form a shelter for a horse. A small spring wagon and a mangy yellow cow complete the outfit.

As the reporter climbed the hill which led to the camp, he was greeted by a young lady and a gentleman who had just had their fortunes told and had evidently been informed that each of them would pass through life hand in hand with some congenial companion. Each thought of the fact that moment the most capable of fulfilling the necessary conditions. A story they knew of the closing scenes of a life with a preface similar to their own.

A little old woman, with a red handkerchief wrapped about her head and knotted under the chin, greeted the newspaper man with the words:

"It's a mucky road you've traveled, my son."

IN THE TENT OF MOURNING.

The English accent was very pronounced. An invitation to her tent was accepted. Bending low, the writer entered through a narrow arch; but, once within, there was plenty of room to spare. At one end was a bed of blankets and straw, from which came the cries of a child but a few days old. A boy of 12 was taking care of a little girl about 2 years old. A stove, a few low stools and a broken chair were all the other conveniences in the tent. The old lady was seated in a high-backed chair, and the odor of meads gave to the place a peculiar fragrance.

The old lady, an English girl in her arms and endeavored to relieve the complaints of the other, who finally got in such a position as to be unnoticed by her nurse. She troubled her with complaints, at the same time dilly-dallying at the reporter. The old lady then told the story of the young woman who had died.

They were English gypsies, and two brothers and a sister had come to America and down the roads and lanes of England for many years. William Stanley had a son; his brother, Richard, had a daughter. Both were named after their mother. The young folk fell in love with one another. Each had a warm, passionate disposition, which brooded over the young couple for years ago last June the two families were camped in Somersetshire, England. The parents of Richard, who was Romya Rye, and of Annie, were objects to the pair marrying too young.

THEY WERE FIRST COUSINS.

Both listened to the words of their parents, but managed to meet and exchange vows of constancy and love. One day the parents of Richard left for a visit to friends in Bristol. Now was the time, thought young Dick, as he was commonly called. He and Annie hurried to Bridgewater and were married. Their parents were furious. The young couple fled to their tent, and their camp came to America and commenced a roving life.

Annie was a Gipsy beauty, tall and lithe, with raven hair; her eyes always twinkling and sparkling, and the roses of her cheeks never fading until touched by the finger of death. Her good humor and winning ways had won her a host of friends. Dick is a tall, well-favored fellow, quite handsome; and he loved his pretty young wife better than he loved his life.

Dick's father and mother and one child left for America as soon as they learned where their son had gone. On reaching the States all trace of their boy and his bonny bride was lost. True to their habits, they commenced to roam through the country. Four months passed, and yet no tidings of the son.

The parents started on a circuit in a direction opposite to that the boy had taken. One day, while driving along a country road in the South, near Charleston, the two companies met each other. Since that time for three years, they have traveled together. A child was born to Dick and Annie two years ago.

The party of nomads came to this city last December. Annie had been ill with the fever. Here friends were to have met her at Christmas time, but they never came, and, since that time until her death, she had been their tidings.

DEATH RIDS LIFE WELCOME.

Last Friday evening a second child was born to Mrs. Stanley, a little girl. She became violently ill shortly afterward, and sank rapidly during the week. During all the days and nights of pain and death, she kept continually calling for "Dick," her husband. Once she expressed the wish that he should be called after her mother, whose name was Fannie.

A few kind neighbors from adjacent houses relieved the poor wanderer as much as possible in her last hours on this earth. Shortly before 8 o'clock yesterday morning she became unconscious, only once rousing herself and calling for Dick.

The little tent was at that hour illumi-

nated by a small oil lamp. Three women

were about the bed on which the dying Gipsy moaned and tossed. Her husband and the others had retired for a short rest in an adjoining tent. The lamp of her life flickered more faintly than the other glimmer in the tent, as if loath to be forever extinguished. Outside, in the darkness of night, a Stanley girl sat at her door. Her

As the last moment approached the feather bed and pillow on which the woman rested were removed from under her, because of the superstition that the last agony is only prolonged by lying on a feather bed. On a couch of straw and blankets, in the gloomy tent, upon whose walls the lamp threw grotesque shadows, far from her home in "Merrie England," with the husband for whom she had sacrificed home and kindred, lying exhausted in another tent, from watching by her bedside in her dying struggles, soothed only by the

MINISTRATIONS OF STRANGERS.

Annie Stanley, the pride, the beauty of an English Gipsy, camped in the innermost of the tents, and thence to her death. Death might, doubtless, come to its victim under sadder, sadder circumstances; but, doubtless, its messenger would shudder as he came to her.

The body was removed to the house of a neighboring farmer, who offered a room in which to lay the remains, and thence it was borne to the place of interment. E. B. Donohoe will pronounce the burial rites, as no Episcopal clergyman could be secured. The remains will be interred in Union cemetery.

As is their custom, the tent in which the woman died was torn down at daylight. All her clothing, as well as the bed on which she lay, and the things which were scattered to the winds. All other articles which belonged to her were likewise destroyed, except such as she placed beside her coffin. Rubbish had been strewn upon the ground on which stood the tent, so as to destroy all traces of the spot having been occupied.

Dick Stanley and his father were absent yesterday, making arrangements for the funeral. The aged grandmother was feeding the child with milk, as she recited her mother's story. As she heard the tale, the woman broke down and sobbed pathetically while she leaned fondly over the older of the little girls, who, as they by her grandmother's side, listened to her story. To her side and began to cry in real earnest.

Poor Dick! He is broken-hearted; but he will search for the friends whom Annie had left behind her. He will wander up and down the earth, wedded only now to such a life as she loved, remembering only, in his hours of reflection, the scene which he had witnessed in the door which had fluttered its melancholy message to the outside world.

## FANNY DAVENPORT'S SUPERSTITION.

She Went to Washington by One Route, Her Company by the Other.

A notice was posted in the lobby of the Grand Opera House late yesterday afternoon to the effect that, on account of continued illness, Fanny Davenport would not appear, and there would be no performance in the evening.

Miss Davenport certainly did not look ill, as was being the case with the rumors in the drawing room of the Washington car on the rear end of the Pennsylvania Line last night. She was having so much enjoyment conversing with a young man, wearing a tall silk hat and bedecked necktie, that she could not see the reporters. It is understood that her indisposition, coupled with a number of other disagreeable things, was the cause of her absence. She had to suffer, made her journey, and she did not care whether "school kept or not."

A curious feature about Miss Davenport is that she did not go with her company, but allowed her agent to take the latter over to the Baltimore and Ohio road, while she went to Washington via the Pennsylvania. It is supposed that she is superstitious, in some way regarding the former road. She came from New York via the Pennsylvania, while the company came on the Baltimore and Ohio. A strong effort was made by the company to induce the latter to go via the latter line, but she positively refused, although that route is shorter and more picturesque.

## RAILWAY ACCOUNTANTS.

A Number of Officials Returning Home From Their Convention.

A number of representatives to the meeting of the Association of American Railway Accounting Officers at St. Louis arrived in the city last night on the special car Pickwick. Among the party were J. W. Renner, Assistant Controller; A. McElroy, Auditor; J. T. Dennison, Auditor of the Star Union; and C. E. Smith, Auditor of the Chesapeake and Potomac. Also, J. Gellingham, Assistant Auditor of the Pennsylvania Railroad; at Philadelphia; F. M. Bissell, Auditor of the Empire Line; Isaac McKelken, Controller of the Lehigh Valley road, at Philadelphia.

The object of the meeting was to consult and devise new forms for the proper and uniform keeping of accounts on all railroad roads. The next meeting of the association will be held at Niagara Falls in June.

Mr. W. F. Allen, editor of the *Traveler's Official Guide*, the authority on all railroad matters, accompanied the party.

TWENTY DOLLARS POORER.

A Young German Traveler is Robbed by Two Men on Liberty Street.

John Ebaugh, a young German, was robbed of about \$20 on Liberty street last evening. He purchased a watch in a Liberty street auction room and displayed the money in paying for it. Two men followed him out of the room and stopped him on Liberty street, asking him to change a \$20 bill. He drew out his money to do so, when he was grabbed and ran, escaping in the crowd.

Ebaugh notified the police officers. Detective McKelvey and Officer McTighe accompanied him to the auction room, but no trace of the money was found. The auctioneer refunded the man the \$8 he had paid for the watch.

Ebaugh was on his way from New York to St. Louis. The officers put him on the train before leaving him.

THE COMMITTEE SHUT OUT.

The Democratic City Committee Fail to Hold a Meeting.

The Democratic city committee were to have held a meeting in the Common Council chamber last evening, but when the members arrived they found the doors closed and the room in darkness. A meeting was held on the evening of January 19, but it was adjourned without doing any business.

An effort was made to obtain permission from Chief Biegelow, but he could not be reached. The committee are angry, and make some rather uncompromising remarks about the parties who had shut them out. It is not likely any further meetings will be called.

A BOY'S SUDDEN CALL.

Killed While Standing on the Track at McCandless Station.

John Shields, a boy of 14, residing on Greenfield avenue, was struck by an Allegheny Valley train while standing by the track at McCandless Station yesterday afternoon and died at the West Penn Hospital. An inquest will be held to-morrow.

His Noble Blinded.

Alderman Hobbs was rather amazed last evening by the sudden entrance of a colored man, Harris, in undress uniform. Harris made a charge against Patrick Pendleton for larceny, alleging that Pendleton turned him out of his boarding house without allowing him to put on even enough of his clothes to meet the requirements of the law.

DR. P. M. HANNA. Eye, ear, nose and throat diseases exclusively. Office, 715 Penn street, Pittsburgh, Pa. 623u

## TO SHUT THE HOTEL.

The Monongahela House to Close Its Doors April 1.

## LEASEHOLD RAISED TO \$22,000.

Scraps From the Railway History of Mine Host Griscom.

## AN ENTIRE RENOVATION TO TAKE PLACE

For the first time in many years the doors of the historic Monongahela House will be closed March 31, unless a new proprietor is found to take hold of the hotel between now and then. Colonel Griscom, the present proprietor, has decided to retire from the rate of rent wanted, and will retire from the business April 1.

Since the death of the former proprietor of the house, Mr. Crossan, the hotel has been owned by a stock company. Mr. John King, of this city, is at the head of the company, and they wish to close the house and make a number of needed repairs. Colonel Griscom leased the house for five years at an annual rental of \$18,000. A short time ago the company decided that the natural growth of the city and the increased valuation of the property necessitated an advance in the rent. They proposed to raise it to \$22,000, but when approached, Manager Griscom refused to pay this amount and renew his lease for the house. The company has since decided to close the house and reopen it in the fall. By that time they expect to have a tenant at the increased price.

TO BE LARGELY REMODELED.

The hotel will be entirely overhauled and renovated in every respect. The old furniture, carpets, etc., will be sold at auction, and when the house is reopened, it will be furnished entirely new. A number of changes will be made on the several floors, and a larger number of rooms for the permanent occupancy of private families will be made. The hotel on the ground floor will also be remodeled.

Mr. Griscom, the lessee of the hotel, is said to be tired of the business, and his friends claim he has lost considerable money in the past few years. It is said he is looking about him for a railroad position, and, if offered a place as an official with some good road, he will accept it. He held a number of positions with different railroad companies, and has a good railroad record.

Mr. Griscom entered the railway service as freight house clerk in the old Duquesne Depot of the Pennsylvania Railroad in this city, in September, 1864. In the following year he was made station agent at Sedgewick, Pa., on the Pittsburgh and Connellsville road.

ON THE FORT WAYNE.

He remained there until July, 1872, when he became clerk to J. D. Layne, of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago road. In the following year he was promoted to freight house clerk, and in 1875 he was made having charge of the line between Pittsburgh and Crestline. Upon the retirement of Mr. Layne from the road, Colonel Griscom followed him, in 1881. In the following December he was made station agent at Western Indiana road as General Manager, which position he held until August, 1883.

He was one of the oldest and most successful of the officers of the Eastern Division, which position he held until August, 1883. He was one of the oldest and most successful of the officers of the Eastern Division, which position he held until August, 1883.

He entered the hotel business in 1885, and has been allowed to retain his position in the Charters road ever since. The duties of the office are not enough to keep a good man busy.

The expenses of running a hotel like the Monongahela are something enormous. At present there are some 200 guests in the hotel, and in the capacities of chambermaids, waiters, bellboys, porters, clerks, etc.

About 35 guests permanently board at the house.

THEY WANTED ALL THEY WANTED.

The East End Electric Company Can String Poles and the Traction Roads Occupy Streets—Junction Ordinance Referred.

The Corporation Committee met yesterday afternoon and returned the following ordinances to Councils with an affirmative recommendation:

A supplement to an ordinance granting the East End Electric Light Company the right to erect poles for the purpose of stringing and maintaining wires upon any and all streets in the city. An ordinance granting the Central Traction Company the right of way along certain streets in the city for the purpose of running a trolley car.

An ordinance granting the Central Passenger Railway Company the right of way along certain streets on the hill district: an ordinance repealing section 1 of an ordinance entitled "An ordinance granting natural gas companies the right to lay pipes in streets and alleys."

An ordinance granting to the Pittsburgh Junction Railroad Company the right to construct tracks and buildings over Spring alley, and to secure from said company its release of claims for damages by reason of opening of said alley.

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## THE HEARING BEGINS.

The Volta Case Commences—A Report From Harrisburg is the First Thing Offered in Evidence.

## THE VOLTA CASE COMMENCES.

The hearing of Henry J. Volta, the former cashier of the Farmers and Merchants' Bank of the Southside, was commenced at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the office of Alderman Schaefer on South Twelfth street.

All the witnesses of the prosecution were present, and Mr. Volta and his lawyer were also there. When the Alderman asked the usual question, whether the parties were ready to go on with the case, Mr. Ferguson requested a postponement until next Saturday. The application was granted by the legal representatives, but they excepted the charge for perjury.

In this case it was explained to the reporter by Mr. Sorg. "We had to apply to the Auditor General in Harrisburg for the original report made by Mr. Volta November 8, 1887, just before he left the bank."

"The Auditor General promised to send the paper by the Hon. D. E. Weaver, member of the Legislature for the Fifth district. He, at the same time, asked that gentleman to go on with the case, Mr. Ferguson requested a postponement until next Saturday. The application was granted by the legal representatives, but they excepted the charge for perjury."

This document was sworn to and signed by H. F. Volta, in the presence of Alderman J. N. Jarrett. To testify to this fact, Mr. Jarrett was called as the first witness.

After that the original report was read, and compared with a printed report. A large portion of the report was corrected according to the original one. Then the written report was offered as evidence, and the printed one was held for future reference.

The prosecutors base their charge of perjury upon the allegation that while in the report of November 8, 1887, Mr. Henry J. Volta swore that the deposits amounted to \$280,087.00, they can prove that, according to the books, the deposits amounted to \$19,000 in excess of that sum.

The examination of Mr. Volta, testifying that that report had been handed to him by the Auditor General, terminated yesterday afternoon. It was rumored that Mr. Volta would produce bail, but he failed to do so, and he returned to jail.

MR. FETTERMAN COMPLAINS

That City Councils have been authorizing the City Attorney and Duquesne County Collector to release him, and not only so, but a mere clerk in the Delinquent Tax Collector's office has been doing what an attorney cannot do.

He takes the ground that Councils have no right to do this, and that the Delinquent Tax Collector is a mere clerk in the Delinquent Tax Collector's office has been doing what an attorney cannot do.

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## REFORM MUST COME.

The Municipal Tax Lien Said by Lawyers to be a Necessity.

## JUDGE FETTERMAN TELLS WHY.

Old Errors of Assessment That Might be Annoying 200 Years Hence.

## ANOTHER LAWYER GIVES HIS REASONS

Senator Newmyer's bill, now pending in the Legislature, requiring the revival of municipal liens every five years, is stirring up discussion in this city only second to the submission of the proposed amendment to the State Constitution, especially among lawyers, who, from the nature of their business, are more alive to the exigencies of the situation than other people. Ex-Judge Fetterman gives some cogent reasons why the bill should pass, the main one being, he puts it, to ensure the possibility of occurrence of past negligence in the City Assessor's office. Mr. Fetterman cited a case where a large property in the city had been assessed for ten years in the name of a man whose wife owned all the property. Now the mischief is to pay. The family has been selling lots for many years, and from time to time the municipality has been released, until the property has been narrowed down to 13 acres, against which stand \$1,400 of taxes, and the liens remain a shadow on the titles of all the property sold and it is impossible for a lawyer to find them with certainty.

He also tells of another case where a woman bought property and has paid the taxes upon it for six or seven years, and yet the property has been regularly assessed to the person who sold it, and she has been put to the expense of having the matter righted, as, though the taxes have been paid, they still encumber.

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